

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Kathleen Clarke Executive Director Lowell P. Braxton Division Director

# State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 9, 2001

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT 7000 0520 0021 7582 9552

Robert John Hicken Mountain Valley Stone 2276 South Daniels Road Heber, Utah 84032

Re:

Second Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations, Mountain Valley Stone, Browns Canyon Mine, M/043/019, Summit County, Utah

Dear Mr. Hicken:

The Division has completed a review of your August 24, 2001, response to our March 20<sup>th</sup> initial review letter, regarding your Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Browns Canyon mine, located in Summit County, Utah. After reviewing the information, there are still some areas that need to be addressed before tentative approval may be granted. The comments are listed below under the applicable Minerals Rule heading. Please format your response in a similar fashion. Please provide a response to this second review by November 10, 2001.

The Division will suspend further review of the Browns Canyon Mine until your response to this letter is received. If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, Lynn Kunzler, or Doug Jensen of the Minerals Staff. If you wish to arrange a meeting to sit down and discuss this review, please contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg

Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

#### REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS

# Mountain Valley Stone Browns Canyon Mine M/043/019

#### R647-4-104 - Operator(s), Surface and Mineral Ownership

A map showing the land ownership of adjacent properties needs to be included in the plan. (DJ)

#### R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs

#### 105.1 Topographic base map, boundaries, pre-act disturbance

See comments under R647-4-106.3. (DJ)

#### 105.2 Surface facilities map

The Surface Facilities map should indicate the mining sequence for at least five (5) years indicating the projected mining faces and waste dump outlines. Reclamation of this additional area should be included in the surety calculations. (DJ)

#### 105.3 Drawings or Cross Sections (slopes, roads, pads, etc.)

Cross Sections included in the plan indicate overburden dumps and the pit face presently extend to the projected disturbance limits of this permit application. The site map indicates that these features do not extend to this limit at the present time. The cross section should be corrected to reflect this outline is a projected ultimate limit of the feature. Care should be taken to assure that sufficient area would remain between each of these features and the permit boundaries to allow for final reclamation without impacting adjacent unpermitted areas. (DJ)

# R647-4-106 - Operation Plan

#### 106.3 Estimated acreage

The ultimate disturbance outlined on the surface facilities indicates a proposed acreage of 17.75 acres. Please revise section 106.3 of your plan to include the projected acreage for the various features/facilities, not just the current acreage for the listed features/facilities. (DJ & LK)

#### 106.5 Existing soil types, location, amount

Appendix #2 of the plan indicates that one of the proposed soil stockpiles will be located at the northern perimeter of the site. If the overburden dump is expanded to the area immediately above this feature, a buffer of some type (i.e. berm) will need to be installed to protect the stockpile from contamination. (DJ & LK)

#### **R647-4-107 - Operation Practices**

#### 107.4 Deleterious material safety stored or removed

The secondary containment units placed under the above ground diesel and gasoline tanks must be sized to contain at least 110% of the capacity of the tank that it is placed under. (DJ)

Page 2 Second Review M/043/019 October 9, 2001

#### 107.5 Suitable soils removed & stored

The statement under this section concerning the care of the soil stockpile in this part of the plan needs to be revised to be consistent with statements made in R647-4-106.6 (106.6 indicates that the topsoil stockpiles will be seeded as well). (DJ & LK)

# R647-4-109 - Impact Assessment

# 109.4 Slope stability, erosion control, air quality, safety

The map included with this application indicates the access road will travel along a portion of the highwall. Additional safety berms should be placed along any portions of the access road that are immediately adjacent to any highwalls. (DJ)

#### R647-4-110 - Reclamation Plan

# 110.2 Roads, highwalls, slopes, drainages, pits, etc., reclaimed

Please detail how overburden and soil will be used to backfill the steps or benches of the quarry faces. (DJ)

# 110.5 Revegetation planting program

This portion of the plan states that the operator will use composted manure at a rate of 5 tons an acre with soil on 2.295 acres of the current operation. The remainder of the current operation (4.132 acres) will be reclaimed using fines, overburden and 10 tons/acre of composted manure. The Reclamation Treatments map included in the plan indicates the current operation (6.5 acres) area will be ripped, composted, topsoil applied, and seeded. Also in this section, the plan states that soil materials will be amended with compost. Please review these areas of the plan and revise these sections for continuity and clarity. The surety should reflect the amount of soil amendments to be used during reclamation. (DJ)

#### **R647-4-111 - Reclamation Practices**

# 111.1 Public safety & welfare

# 1.15 Constructing berms/fences above highwalls

The present plan indicates that soil stockpiles will be used to form safety berms above the highwall. Because these berms will be consumed during final reclamation, warning signs and/or a fence should be placed above reclaimed highwalls. (DJ)

# 111.12 Topsoil redistribution

The plan states that waste dumps will be regraded to a 3:1 configuration and reseeded. These slopes will require the placement of a growth medium (topsoil) and amendments before seeding takes place. (DJ)

#### R647-4-113 - Surety

Until an adequate response to this review is received, the reclamation surety amount cannot be confirmed. (DJ)

# **DOCUMENT TRACKING SHEET**

USE THIS SHEET WHEN ITEM (S) SHOULD BE SCANNED TO SEVERAL PLACES, SUCH AS A BOND RELEASE FOR AN OUTGOING LETTER. THE LETTER WILL GO IN OUTGOING WITH THIS SHEET BEHIND IT REFENCEING THE BOND RELEASE FINDINGS IS IN INTERNAL AND THE RECORD # IS \_\_\_\_.

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